## In the Claims

Please cancel Claim 52 without prejudice.

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

(Twice amended) A method for reducing cardiovascular disease complications in a patient following surgery comprising the step of administering to the patient a pharmacologic cardiovascular agent after surgery near the maximum effective dose of the agent while the patient's heart rate is greater than or equal to 65 bpm, while the patient's systolic blood pressure is greater than or equal to 100 mm Hg, and while the patient evidences no congestive heart failure, third degree heart block, or bronchospasm wherein the pharmacologic agent is administered daily in the period from immediately after surgery until symptoms of cardiovascular stress are reduced.

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(49.) (Amended) A method for reducing cardiovascular disease complications in a patient following surgery comprising the step of continuously administering to the patient a pharmacologic cardiovascular agent after surgery wherein the agent is

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- a) continuously administered in the period from immediately after surgery until symptoms of cardiovascular stress are reduced near the maximum effective dose of the agent while the patient's heart rate is greater than or equal to 65 bpm, while the patient's systolic blood pressure is greater than or equal to 100 mm Hg, and while the patient evidences no congestive heart failure, third degree heart block, or bronchospasm until symptoms of cardiovascular stress are reduced; or
- b) continuously administered in the period from immediately after surgery until symptoms of cardiovascular stress are reduced at about one half of the maximum effective dose of the agent while the patient's heart rate is greater than or equal to 55 bpm, but less than 65 bpm, while the patient's systolic blood pressure is greater than 100 mm Hg, and while the patient evidences no congestive heart failure, third degree heart block, or bronchospasm until symptoms of cardiovascular stress are reduced.

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